

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying new immunomodulatory chemical entities (NICE) comprising:
 - a. reacting a candidate NICE with a Tat SH3 binding domain wherein said Tat SH3 binding domain is bound to a solid phase to identify candidate NICE that bind to said Tat SH3;
 - b. identifying said candidate NICE bound to said Tat SH3;
 - c. adding said identified candidate NICE to a culture of purified peripheral blood monocytes;
 - d. adding Tat having an SH3 binding domain to said peripheral blood monocytes and candidate NICE to form a test culture;
 - e. incubating said test culture to allow said monocytes to differentiate into dendritic cells (DC) or regulatory macrophages (AReg);
 - f. removing said differentiated cells from said test culture;
 - g. quantifying the numbers of DCs and AReg in the differentiated cell population; and
 - h. determining the relative numbers of DCs and AReg in the differentiated cell population;wherein the relative numbers of DCs and AReg identifies an immunosuppressive NICE or an immunostimulatory NICE.
2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said Tat SH3 binding domain in step (a) is selected from the group consisting of native immunosuppressive human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) Tat, simian lentivirus Tat, long-term non-responder Tat, randomly mutated HIV Tat and site-specific mutated HIV Tat.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of injecting confirmed immunostimulatory NICE from step (f) of claim 1 into an immunosuppressed mouse wherein said immunosuppression results from the presence of an endogenous SH3 binding domain.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[2]]~~3 wherein the said ~~immunosuppressive~~ immunosuppressed mouse is a *hairless (hr)* mouse.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of injecting a ~~tolerogenic~~ immunosuppressive NICE from step (f) of claim 1 into a mouse and further challenging said mouse with an antigen wherein ~~said tolerance~~ to said antigen results from the pre-treatment with ~~tolerogenic~~ said immunosuppressive NICE.